

851 in any form to take this motion seriously and give that as an indication, otherwise I think those of us if we see the bill, the Legislature vote to continue this bill, we'll take that as a signal that it is an important issue that you do in fact want to address the rest of the session. Thank you very much for your time.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Schellpeper, your light is next, followed by Senators Chambers, Robak, Witek, Cudaback, Hall, Maurstad, Wesely and Jensen.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Madam President and members, I also rise to oppose the kill motion on LB 851. I agree with Senator Withem that I don't like everything in LB 851 either. I didn't support it in committee. I think it has a lot of things that need to be worked out. Senator Hall said they have been working them out. I would like to see that compromise and what is going to happen with that compromise. We've reached a point in this state I think when we need to decide whether we're going to expand or we're going to just stop as Senator Hall has stated. I personally think that also that we need to move on. Anyone who has ever gone to any casino in Iowa, South Dakota, any other state, Colorado, you've seen all the cars from this state. We were over to Iowa a few weeks ago, some of us, just to see what it was like over there and the cars from Nebraska are probably 70, 75 percent. Those are dollars going out of this state that should be staying here. Whether it's right or wrong to gamble, that's not for us to decide. I guess it's for us to decide whether we want to keep those dollars in this state because those people are going to gamble regardless. If we do nothing they are still going to continue to gamble. We spent a lot of time this session in the General Affairs Committee talking about gambling, horse racing, all different types of gambling and we basically came down that something needs to be brought to a head this session, one way or the other. Either we're going to or we're going to just stay neutral. And I think this body needs to actually debate the issue. The compromise I think might be good, I don't know. Senator Hall said that it will be acceptable. I think it will. I've talked to some other people that said that it's a lot different than what LB 851 actually is right now. So I'm willing to wait to vote this down, to discuss the committee amendments, by that time we'll have the, hopefully, the amendment that has been worked out between the keno people, the bars, the racetracks, everybody concerned. Hopefully we can find a compromise that we can find